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# Dynamics on character varieties (Complex Dynamics and Related Topics)

AUTHOR(S):

Cantat, Serge

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# Dynamics on character varieties

Serge Cantat  
Université de Rennes I

Complex Dynamics and Related Topics

Research Institute for Mathematical Sciences, Kyoto University

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①

GOAL

- Study an action of the group

$$\Gamma_2^+ = \left\{ M \in \mathrm{PGL}(2, \mathbb{Z}) ; M \equiv \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \pmod{2} \right\}$$

on the family of surfaces

$$(S_{A,B,C,D}) \quad x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + xyz = Ax + By + Cz + D$$

by polynomial diffeomorphisms.

- Painlevé Equations #VI, monodromy of PVI.

Iwasaki and Uehara, Inaba, Iwasaki, Saito, ...

- Quasi-Fuchsian Groups, Character Varieties

Goldman, Benedetto, Brown, Neumann, Stantchev,  
Pickrell, Previte, Xia, Souto, Storm, Tan, Wong, Zhang,  
Yamashita, ...

- Holomorphic Dynamics.

Bedford, Diller, Dinh, Dujardin, Formaers, Lyubich,  
Sibony, Smillie, ...

- Certain kind of "discrete Schrödinger Operators"

Bellissard, Roberto, Casdagli, Mackay, ...

Thanks to Frank Loray (partly a joint work)  
with him

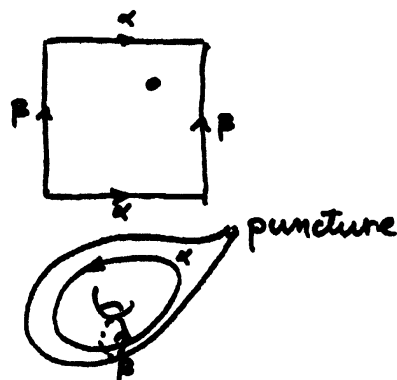
## ② The Torus and The Sphere.

- $T_1$  : the once punctured torus.

$$\pi_1(T_1) = \langle \alpha, \beta \mid \emptyset \rangle \cong F_2$$

(free group of rank 2)

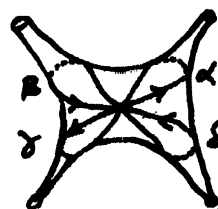
$[\alpha, \beta] = \alpha\beta\alpha^{-1}\beta^{-1}$  makes one turn around the puncture.



- $S_4$  : the four punctured sphere

$$\pi_1(S_4) = \langle \alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta \mid \alpha\beta\gamma\delta = 1 \rangle \cong F_3$$

(free group of rank 3)



- If  $X = T_1$  or  $S_4$  then  $\text{euler}(X) = -1$  or  $-2 < 0$ .

$$\Rightarrow \exists \rho : \pi_1(X) \longrightarrow \text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R}) = \text{Isom}^+(\mathbb{D})$$

such that  $\rho(\pi_1(X))$  is a discrete subgroup of  $\text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R})$  and  $\mathbb{D} / \rho(\pi_1(X)) \cong X$ .

Moreover, the Teichmüller space of  $X$  has real dimension 2.

- Since  $\pi_1(X)$  is free, representations  $\rho : \pi_1(X) \rightarrow \text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R})$  can be lifted to  $\text{SL}(2, \mathbb{R})$ .

- The Mapping Class Group of  $X$  coincides with  $\text{Aut}(\pi_1(X)) / \text{Inn}$  where  $\text{Inn} =$  inner automorphisms (= conjugations).  
It acts on the space of representations  $\{\rho : \pi_1(X) \rightarrow \text{SL}(2, \mathbb{C})\}$  modulo  $\text{SL}(2, \mathbb{C})$ -conjugations.

Goal : STUDY THIS ACTION !

②

## Character Varieties.

$$\begin{aligned} \bullet \operatorname{Rep}(\pi_1(X), \operatorname{SL}(2, \mathbb{C})) &= \{ \rho: \pi_1(X) \rightarrow \operatorname{SL}(2, \mathbb{C}); \rho \text{ morphism} \} \\ &= \begin{cases} \{ (\rho(\alpha), \rho(\beta)) \in \operatorname{SL}(2, \mathbb{C})^2 \} = \operatorname{SL}(2, \mathbb{C})^2 \\ \text{or} \\ \operatorname{SL}(2, \mathbb{C})^3 \text{ if } X \text{ is } \mathbb{B}_4. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

$$\bullet X(X) = \operatorname{Rep}(\pi_1(X), \operatorname{SL}(2, \mathbb{C})) // \underbrace{\operatorname{SL}(2, \mathbb{C})}_{\substack{\text{Quotient in the} \\ \text{sense of Geometric} \\ \text{Invariant Theory}}} \swarrow \begin{array}{l} \text{SL}(2, \mathbb{C}) \text{ acts by} \\ \text{conjugation:} \\ (\rho, A) \mapsto A \cdot \rho \cdot A^{-1}. \end{array}$$

• The Torus  $\Pi_1$ :

- $\operatorname{tr}(\rho(\alpha)), \operatorname{tr}(\rho(\beta)), \operatorname{tr}(\rho(\alpha\beta))$  are invariant functions
- they generate the algebra of invariant functions
- there are no relations between these functions.

$$\Rightarrow [X(\Pi_1) = \mathbb{C}^3, (x, y, z) = (\operatorname{tr}(\rho(\alpha)), \dots)]$$

Remark:  $\operatorname{tr}(\rho[\alpha, \beta]) = x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - xyz - 2$

• The Sphere  $\mathbb{S}_4$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \bullet \quad a &= \operatorname{tr}(\alpha) & b &= \operatorname{tr}(\beta) & c &= \operatorname{tr}(\gamma) & d &= \operatorname{tr}(\delta) \\ x &= \operatorname{tr}(\alpha\beta) & y &= \operatorname{tr}(\beta\gamma) & z &= \operatorname{tr}(\gamma\alpha) \end{aligned}$$

generate the algebra of invariant functions.

- They satisfy the equation

$$[x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + xyz = Ax + By + Cz + D]$$

$$\text{with } A = ab + cd \quad B = bc + ad$$

$$[C = ac + bd \text{ and } D = 4 - a^2 - b^2 - c^2 - d^2 - abcd]$$

$$\Rightarrow [X(\mathbb{S}_4^2) \text{ is a 6-dimensional complex quartic hypersurface in } \mathbb{C}^7.]$$

④

## Action of the Mapping Class Group

- The group  $\text{Aut}(\pi_1(X))$  acts on  $\text{Rep}(\pi_1(X), \text{SL}(2, \mathbb{C}))$  by composition:

$$\rho \in \text{Rep}(\pi_1(X), \text{SL}(2, \mathbb{C})), \Phi \in \text{Aut}(\pi_1(X)) \mapsto \rho \circ \Phi.$$

- $\text{Inn}(\pi_1(X)) = \text{Inner automorphisms} = \{\gamma \mapsto \alpha \gamma \alpha^{-1}, \alpha \in \pi_1(X)\}$   
The group  $\text{Inn}(\pi_1(X))$  does not act on  $\chi(X)$ .

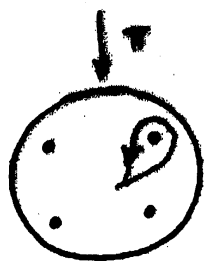
$$\Rightarrow \text{Out}(\pi_1(X)) := \text{Aut}(\pi_1(X)) / \text{Inn}(\pi_1(X)) \text{ acts on } \chi(X).$$

- The group  $\text{Out}(\pi_1(X))$  coincides with the mapping class group of  $X$ .

Example: The 4-punctured sphere  $\mathbb{S}_4$ .



$$T = \mathbb{R}^2 / \mathbb{Z}^2$$



$$S = T / \sigma$$

$$\text{where } \sigma(x, y) = (-x, -y)$$

$\text{GL}(2, \mathbb{Z})$  acts on  $T$  and commutes with  $\sigma$



$\text{PGL}(2, \mathbb{Z})$  acts on the sphere.

$H = \{(0, 0), (0, \frac{1}{2}), (\frac{1}{2}, 0), (\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})\}$  = 2-torsion of  $T$   
also acts  $\Rightarrow \text{PGL}(2, \mathbb{Z}) \rtimes H$  acts on  $\mathbb{S}_4$

Fact: This is  $\text{MCG}^*(\mathbb{S}_4)$ .

Remark:  $\Gamma_2^* = \{M \in \text{PGL}(2, \mathbb{Z}) \mid M \equiv \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \pmod{2}\}$

This group acts on  $\mathbb{S}_4$  and preserves the punctures.

$\Rightarrow$  Acts on  $\chi(\mathbb{S}_4)$  and preserves  $a, b, c, d$ , i.e.  $A, B, C$ , and  $D$ .

⑤

Automorphisms of  $S_{A,B,C,D}$ 

## • Summary:

The group  $\Gamma_2^*$  acts on the family of cubic surfaces  $(S_{A,B,C,D})$   $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + xyz = Ax + By + Cz + D$

where  $A, B, C$ , and  $D$  are parameters (complex or real).

One wants to describe this dynamical system.

→ Tools from holomorphic dynamics are useful for that!!

Automorphisms (= polynomial diffeomorphisms)

$$s_x : (x, y, z) \in S_{A,B,C,D} \mapsto (-x - yz + A, y, z)$$

$$s_y : (x, y, z) \in S_{A,B,C,D} \mapsto (x, -y - zx + B, z)$$

$$s_z : (x, y, z) \in S_{A,B,C,D} \mapsto (x, y, -z - xy + C)$$

THM (Él'-Huti, 1974)

• There are no relations between  $s_x, s_y, s_z$ :

$$\langle s_x, s_y, s_z \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} * \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} * \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \subset \text{Aut}(S_{A,B,C,D})$$

• The index of  $\langle s_x, s_y, s_z \rangle$  in  $\text{Aut}(X)$  is  $\leq 24$

• For generic  $A, B, C, D$ ,  $\text{Aut}(X) = \langle s_x, s_y, s_z \rangle$ .

• Fact (easy computation): The group  $\Gamma_2^*$  acts on  $S_{A,B,C,D}$ .

Its image in  $\text{Aut}(X)$  coincides with  $\langle s_x, s_y, s_z \rangle$ .

$$\left. \begin{array}{ll} \cdot s_x & \text{corresponds to } \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ \cdot s_y & \text{" " } \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 2 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \\ \cdot s_z & \text{" " } \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \end{array} \right\} \text{These 3 matrices generate } \Gamma_2^*.$$

Example:  $s_x \circ s_y \circ s_z$  corresponds to  $\begin{pmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  and is given by

$$(x, y, z) \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} -x - (-y + xz + x^2y - C_x) \cdot (-z - xy + C) + A, \\ -y + xz + x^2y - C_x, -z - xy + C \end{pmatrix}$$

⑥

## The Cayley Cubic.

- Choose  $A, B, C, D = 0, 0, 0, 4$ , then  $S$  is given by  

$$x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + xyz = 4$$

- Consider  $\eta: \mathbb{C}^* \times \mathbb{C}^* \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^* \times \mathbb{C}^*$ ,  $\eta(u, v) = (\frac{1}{u}, \frac{1}{v})$

Then the map  $\mathbb{C}^* \times \mathbb{C}^* \rightarrow S_{0,0,4}$   
 $(u, v) \mapsto (-u - \frac{1}{u}, -v - \frac{1}{v}, -uv - \frac{1}{uv})$   
 provides an isomorphism between  $S_{0,0,4}$  and  $\mathbb{C}^* \times \mathbb{C}^* / \eta$

- $S_{0,0,4}$  has 4 singularities corresponding to the 4 fixed points of  $\eta$ :  $(1, -1) \in \mathbb{C}^* \times \mathbb{C}^* \mapsto (-2, 2, 2) \in \text{Sing}(S)$ .

THM (Cayley, ~1880)

$S_{0,0,4}$  is the unique surface in the family  $S_{A,B,C,D}$  with 4 singularities

We shall call it the Cayley cubic and denote it  $S_C$

- The group  $GL(2, \mathbb{Z})$  acts on  $\mathbb{C}^* \times \mathbb{C}^*$  by monomial transformations:

$$\Pi = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}, (u, v) \in \mathbb{C}^* \times \mathbb{C}^* \mapsto (u^a v^b, u^c v^d)$$

$\Rightarrow PGL(2, \mathbb{Z})$  acts on  $S_C$  by polynomial diffeomorphisms

$\Rightarrow \Gamma_2^*$  acts on  $S_C$ : this is the same action!

- Consequence: When  $A, B, C, D = 0, 0, 0, 4$ , the dynamics of  $\Gamma_2^*$  is "uniformized" by its usual linear action on  $\mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{C}$ :

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{C} & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \mathbb{C}^* \times \mathbb{C}^* & \xrightarrow{\quad} & S_C \\ s, t & \mapsto & \exp s, \exp t & \mapsto & (-\frac{1}{2} - u, -v - \frac{1}{v}, -uv - \frac{1}{uv}) \\ \text{Linear} & & \text{Monomial} & & \end{array}$$





## ② Action of $\Gamma_2^*$ at infinity (II)

- Let  $\gamma \in \Gamma_2^*$  :  $\gamma$  corresponds to an isometry of  $\mathbb{D}$   
 $\gamma$  corresponds to a  $2 \times 2$  real matrix.

$\lambda(\gamma) :=$  Largest |eigenvalue| of  $\gamma$ .

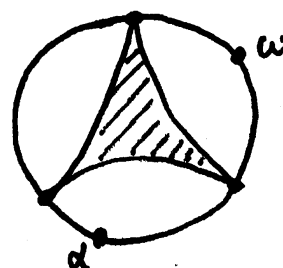
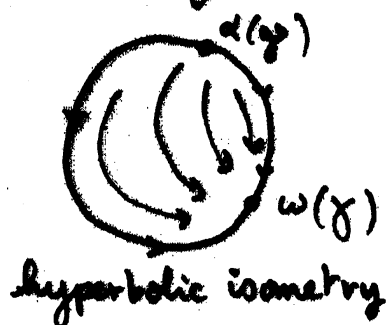
$\gamma$  is said to be hyperbolic if  $\lambda(\gamma) > 1$

$\gamma$  is said to be parabolic if  $\lambda(\gamma) = 1$  and  $\gamma \neq \begin{pmatrix} 1 & * \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

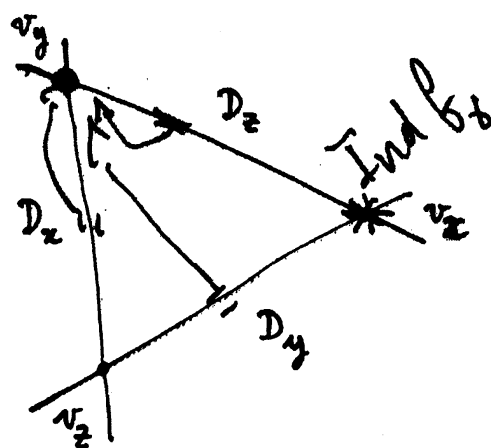
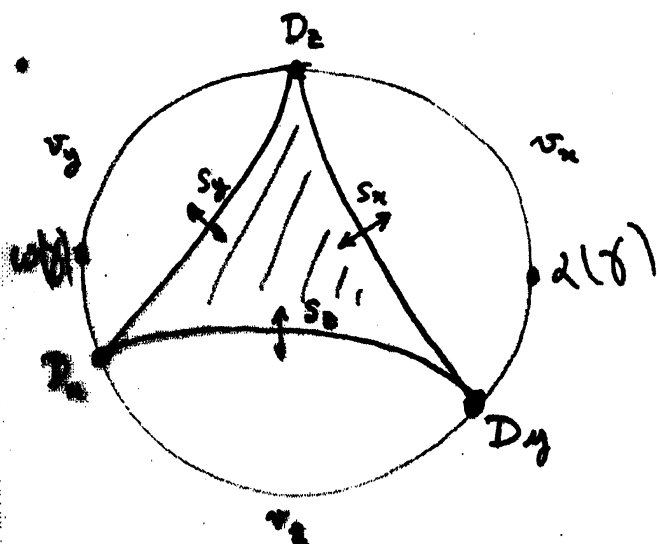
$\gamma$  is said to be elliptic otherwise.

Fact: elliptic  $\Leftrightarrow$  conjugated to  $s_x, s_y$  or  $s_z$   
 parabolic  $\Leftrightarrow$  " " an iterate of  
 $s_z \circ s_y$  or  $s_y \circ s_x$  or  $s_x \circ s_z$ .

- If  $\gamma$  is hyperbolic then  $\gamma$  has two fixed points on  $\partial\mathbb{D}$  and the dynamics is :



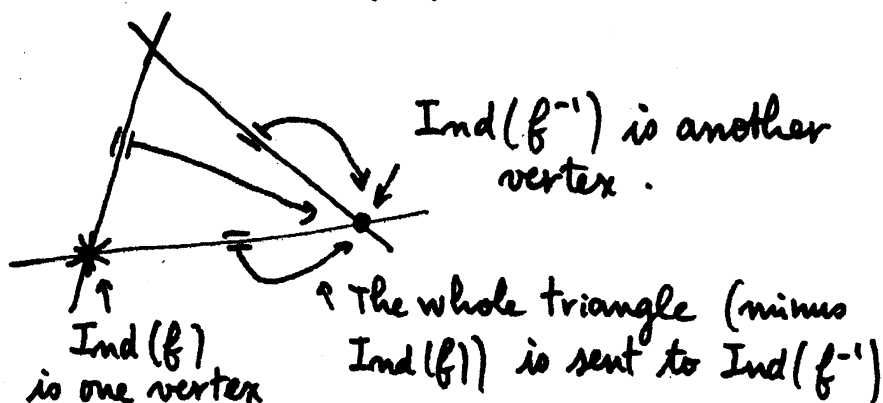
up to conjugacy  $\alpha(\gamma)$  and  $\omega(\gamma)$  are in 2 different segments



④

## Topological Entropy.

- Summary: Let  $f$  be an automorphism of  $S_{A,B,C,D}$ . Assume that  $f$  is determined by a hyperbolic element of  $\Gamma_2^*$ . Then, after conjugacy in  $\text{Aut}(S_{A,B,C,D})$  we have:



- Consequence: Up to conjugacy in  $\text{Aut}(S_{A,B,C,D})$ ,  $f$  is algebraically stable.

THM (a new version of Iwasaki &amp; Uehara)

For any set of parameters  $A, B, C, D \in \mathbb{C}$ For any ~~hyper~~ element  $f$  in  $\text{Aut}(S_{A,B,C,D})$ ,The topological entropy of  $f: S_{A,B,C,D}(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow S_{A,B,C,D}(\mathbb{C})$  is given by

$$h_{\text{top}}(f) = \log(\lambda(f))$$

Remark:  $\lambda(f) := \lambda(\gamma)^{\frac{1}{k}}$  for any  $k \geq 1$   
 such that  $f^k$  is induced by  $\gamma \in \Gamma_2^*$ .

⑩

• proof 1 (Smillie, Bedford & Diller, Dujardin ; Dinh & Sibony)

•  $f: S \rightarrow S$  a birational transformation of a complex projective surface.

•  $\text{Ind}(f^{-1}) \cap \text{Ind}(f) = \emptyset$ ,  $f^{-1}(\text{Ind} f) = \text{Ind}(f)$   
 $f(\text{Ind} f^{-1}) = \text{Ind}(f^{-1})$

•  $f^*: H^2(S, \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow H^2(S, \mathbb{Z})$

$$\lambda(f^*) = \limsup_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \| (f^n)^* \|^{1/n}$$

$$\text{Then } h_{\text{top}}(f) = \log(\lambda(f^*)).$$

• Moreover:  $H \subset S$  a hyperplane section, then

$$h_{\text{top}}(f) = \log \left( \limsup_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \| (f^n)^* [H] \|^{1/n} \right)$$

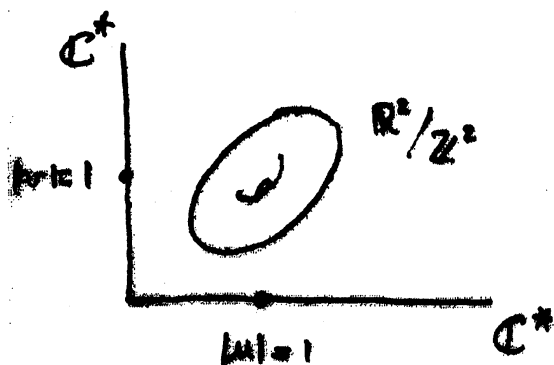
• proof 2: Assume that  $f$  is induced by  $\gamma \in \Gamma_2^*$ .

• The triangle at infinity is a hyperplane section of  $\bar{S}_{A,B,C,D}$ .

• The action of  $f^*$  on the triangle at infinity does not depend on  $A, B, C, D$ :  $f^*: \text{Vect}([D_n], [D_y], [D_z]) \rightarrow$

• We compute  $\lambda(f^*)$  in a specific case:  
 The Cayley cubic case  $S_C$ .

• In this case, the dynamics is linear:



$$h_{\text{top}}(f) = \log(\lambda(f))$$

①

## Normal forms at infinity (I)

- Germs of contracting holomorphic transformations (Dloussky, Favre).

$f: \mathbb{C}^2_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^2_0$  a germ of holomorphic map near the origin.

Assume that  $f$  contracts both axes on  $(0,0)$ :

$$f(\{x=0\}) = f(\{y=0\}) = (0,0).$$

$$\text{Let } f_* : \pi_1(\mathbb{C}^* \times \mathbb{C}^*) \rightarrow \pi_1(\mathbb{C}^* \times \mathbb{C}^*)$$

$$\quad \quad \quad \mathbb{Z}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^2$$

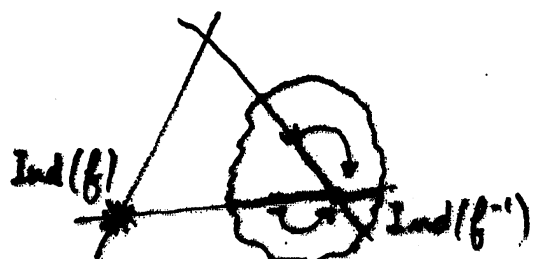
be the linear map induced by  $f$ :

$$f_* \begin{pmatrix} p \\ q \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} p \\ q \end{pmatrix}, \det \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} = \pm 1$$

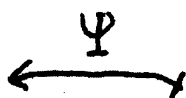
THM (Dloussky, Favre):  $\exists$  a germ of holomorphic diffeomorphism  $\Psi: \mathbb{C}^2_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^2_0$  such that

$$\left[ \begin{array}{l} \Psi \left( (x,y)^{\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}} \right) = f(\Psi(x,y)) \\ \text{i.e. } \Psi \text{ conjugates } f \text{ to } (x,y) \mapsto (x^a y^b, x^c y^d) \end{array} \right.$$

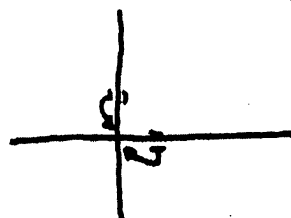
- Consequence (for  $f \in \text{Aut}(S_{A,B,C,D})$ )



$f$  hyperbolic (after a good conjugacy in  $\text{Aut}(S)$ )



$$\exists N_f \in GL(2, \mathbb{Z})$$



$$(u,v) \mapsto (u,v)^{N_f}$$

⑫

## Normal forms at infinity (II)

Proposition. Let  $A, B, C, D \in \mathbb{C}$ .

Let  $M$  be an element of  $\Gamma_2^*$ .

Let  $f: S_{A,B,C,D} \rightarrow S_{A,B,C,D}$  be the automorphism corresponding to  $fM$ .

Assume that  $M$  is hyperbolic and  $\text{Ind } f \neq \text{Ind } f^{-1}$ .

Then

(i)  $\exists N_f$  a  $2 \times 2$  integer matrix with  $\geq 0$  entries which is conjugate to  $\pm M$ .

(ii)  $\exists \Psi: (\mathbb{C}^2, 0) \rightarrow (\overline{S}_{A,B,C,D}, \text{Ind } f^{-1})$  a germ of holomorphic diffeomorphism such that

$$f(\Psi(u, v)) = \Psi((u, v)^{N_f})$$

Remark:  $\forall M \in \text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{Z}) \quad \exists N$  with  $\geq 0$  entries such that  $M$  is conjugate to  $N$  in  $\text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{Z})$ .

Unbounded orbits:

Let  $(x, y, z) \in S_{A,B,C,D}(\mathbb{C})$ . Assume that the forward orbit of  $(x, y, z)$  is not bounded, then

$$f^n(x, y, z) \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow +\infty} \text{Ind}(f^{-1})$$

and the following limit is well defined:

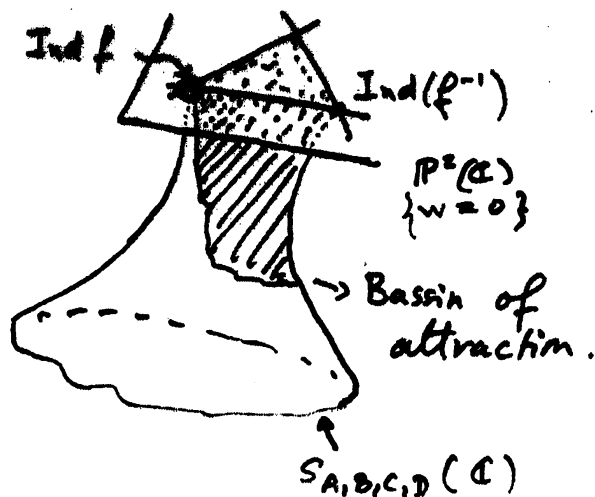
Green  $G_f^+(x, y, z) = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{2(f)^n} \log \|f^n(x, y, z)\|$

(Here  $\|(x, y, z)\| = |x|^2 + |y|^2 + |z|^2$ .)

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# Basin of attraction of $\text{Ind}(f^{-1})$

- Basin of attraction of  $\text{Ind}(f^{-1})$ :



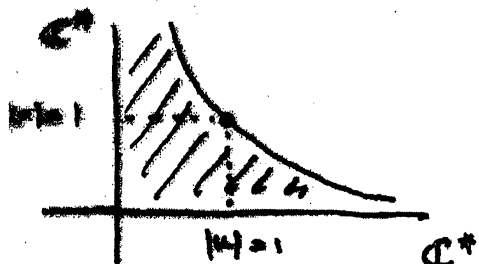
$$\Omega^*(\text{Ind}(f^{-1}))$$

$$= \{m \in S_{A,B,C,D}(\mathbb{C}) ; f^n(m) \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow +\infty} \text{Ind}(f^{-1})\}$$

$$\Omega_*(\text{Ind}(f^{-1}))$$

$$= \{m \in \bar{S}_{A,B,C,D}(\mathbb{C}) ; f^n(m) \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow +\infty} \text{Ind}(f^{-1})\}$$

- Monomial Model:



$$\Omega^*(N_f) = \{(\mu, v) \in \mathbb{C}^* \times \mathbb{C}^* ; |v| < |\mu|^{s(f)}\}$$

$$\text{where } N_f(s(f)) = \lambda(f)(s(f))$$

(i.e.  $s(f)$  is the slope of the eigenline of  $N_f$  corresponding to the eigenvalue  $\lambda(f)$ )

Proposition:

The conjugacy  $\Psi$  extends to a holomorphic diffeomorphism between  $\Omega^*(N_f)$  and  $\Omega^*(\text{Ind}(f^{-1}))$ .

⑫

## Julia Sets and Currents.

- If the orbit of a point  $m \in S_{A,B,C,D}(\mathbb{C})$  is unbounded, then
  - either  $f^n(m) \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow +\infty} \text{Ind}(f^{-1})$  and  $m \in \Omega^*(\text{Ind } f^{-1})$
  - or  $f^n(m) \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow -\infty} \text{Ind}(f)$  and  $m \in \Omega^*(\text{Ind } f)$

• Notations.

— Interesting sets —

- $K^+(f) = \{m \mid \text{the forward orbit of } m \text{ is bounded}\}$   
 $= \text{complement of } \Omega^*(\text{Ind } f^{-1})$   
 $K^-(f) = \{m \mid \text{the backward orbit is bounded}\}$   
 $K(f) = K^+(f) \cap K^-(f)$
- $J^+(f) = \partial K^+(f) \quad J^-(f) = \partial K^-(f)$   
 $J(f) = J^+(f) \cap J^-(f) \subsetneq \partial K(f)$
- $J^*(f) = \text{closure of the set of saddle periodic points of } f.$

— Eigen currents —

- $T_f^+ = dd^c G_f^+$  where  $G_f^+(m) = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{2(f)^n} \log \|f^n(m)\|$   
 $T_f^- = dd^c G_f^-$  where  $G_f^-(m) = \lim_{n \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{1}{2(f)^n} \log \|f^n(m)\|$
- $\mu_f = T_f^+ \wedge T_f^-$

If  $T_f^+$  and  $T_f^-$  are normalized correctly, then

$\mu_f$  is an  $f$ -invariant probability measure.



⑬ Results from holomorphic dynamics.

(Bedford, Diller, Din, Dujardin, Fornæss, Lyubich, Sibony, Smillie, ...)

- $G_f^+$  and  $G_f^-$  are Hölder continuous.

$\Rightarrow \mu_f$  is well defined.

- $\mu_f$  is the unique  $f$ -invariant probability measure with maximal entropy:

$$h_\mu(f) = h_{\text{top}}(f) = \log \lambda(f)$$

- The number of periodic points of  $f$  of period  $N$  is finite (Iwasaki-Uehara: explicit formula)  $\approx \lambda(f)^N$ . Most of them are hyperbolic saddle points.

$$\frac{1}{\lambda(f)^N} \sum_{m \in \text{Per}(f, N)} \text{Strac}_m \xrightarrow{N \rightarrow +\infty} \mu_f$$

where  $\text{Per}(f, N) = \begin{cases} \text{periodic points of period } N \\ \text{or} \\ \text{saddle periodic points} \end{cases}$ .

- $J^*(f)$  coincides with the support of  $\mu_f$ .

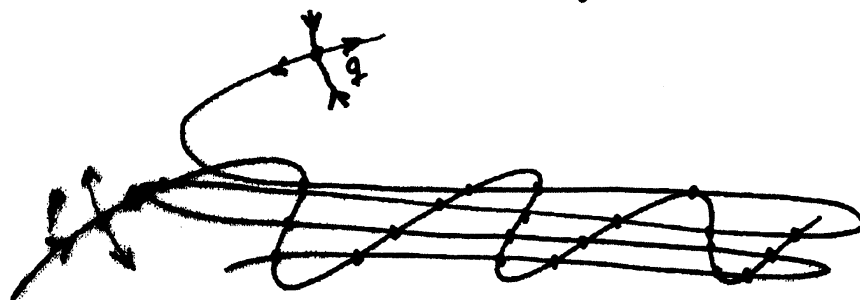
Any periodic saddle point is in the support of  $\mu_f$ .

If  $p, q$  are periodic saddle points then

$$\overline{W^s(p) \cap W^u(q)} = J^*(f)$$

stable manifold  
of  $p$

unstable manifold  
of  $q$



⑩

- If  $p$  is a saddle periodic point of  $f$ , then  $W^u(p)$  is parametrized by  $\mathbb{C}$ :

$$\exists \xi : \mathbb{C} \xrightarrow{\text{holo}} S_{A,B,C,D}(\mathbb{C})$$

with  $\xi$  injective,  $\xi(0) = p$  and  $\xi(\mathbb{C}) = W^u(p)$

Let  $\mathbb{D} \subset \mathbb{C}$  be the unit disk, let  $\chi$  be a smooth non negative function on  $\xi(\mathbb{D})$  with  $\chi(m) > 0$  and  $\chi \equiv 0$  along  $\partial \mathbb{D}$ .

Let  $[\xi(\mathbb{D})]$  be the current of integration on  $\xi(\mathbb{D})$ :

$$\langle [\xi(\mathbb{D})] \mid \alpha \text{ a 2-form} \rangle = \int_{\mathbb{D}} \xi^* \alpha.$$

Then

$$\frac{1}{\lambda(f)^n} f_*^{+n} (\chi \cdot [\xi(\mathbb{D})]) \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow +\infty} c^* T_f^-$$

- Since  $f$  is area preserving, we have

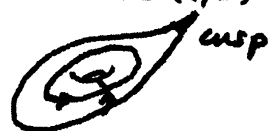
$$\begin{aligned} \text{Interior}(K(f)) &= \text{Interior}(K^+(f)) \\ &= \text{Interior}(K^-(f)) \\ &= \text{bounded open subset} \\ &\quad \text{of } S_{A,B,C,D}(\mathbb{C}). \end{aligned}$$

⑦

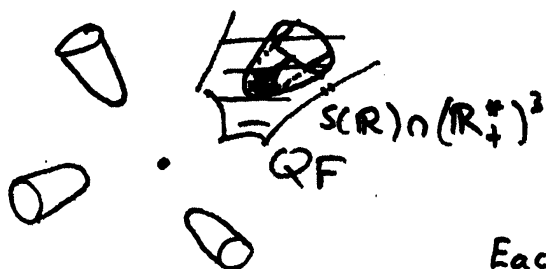
## The Quasi-Fuchsian Space.

• Quasi Fuchsian Space. (for the once punctured torus).

• We consider  $X(\pi_1) = \text{Rep}(\pi_1(T_1), SL(2, \mathbb{C})) //_{SL(2, \mathbb{C})}$   
and we add the condition  
 $\text{tr}(\rho[\alpha, \beta]) = -2$ .



• The real surface  $S(\mathbb{R})$ :  $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = xyz$



$$x = \text{tr}(\rho(\alpha))$$

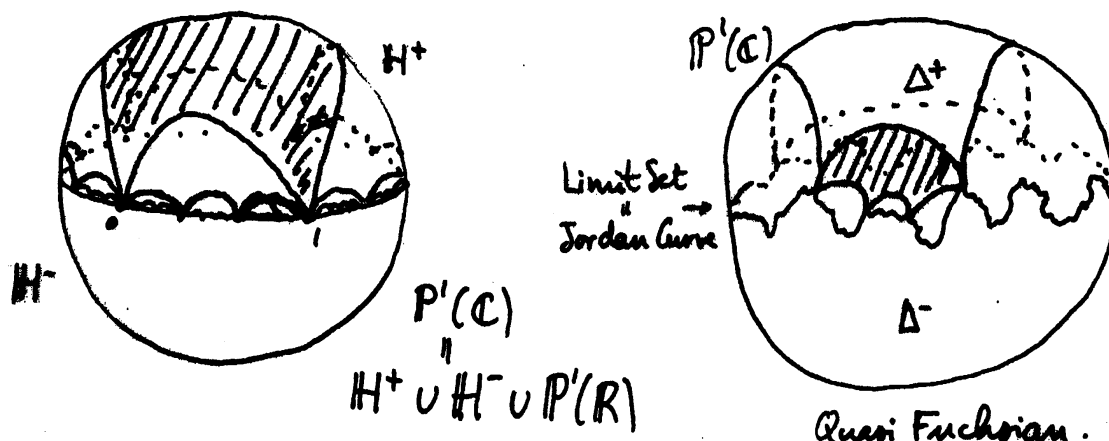
$$y = \text{tr}(\rho(\beta))$$

$$z = \text{tr}(\rho(\alpha\beta))$$

Each connected component  $\neq \{(0,0,0)\}$   
is homeomorphic to  $\mathbb{D}$ .

The action of  $PGL(2, \mathbb{Z}) (\subset \Gamma_2^*)$  on  $S(\mathbb{R}) \cap (\mathbb{R}_+^*)^3$   
is conjugate to the action of  $MCG^*(T_1)$  on  
 $\text{Teich}(T_1)$ , i.e. to the action of  $PGL(2, \mathbb{Z})$  on  
 $\mathbb{D}$ : In particular, it is totally discontinuous.

• Quasi Fuchsian deformation.



⑩

## Bers Parametrization.

- Small deformations of fuchsian representations  
→ quasi fuchsian representations:

$$QF \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \rho: F_2 = \langle \alpha, \beta \rangle \longrightarrow SL(2, \mathbb{C}) \\ \rho \text{ is faithful} \\ \rho(F_2) \text{ is discrete} \\ \rho(F_2) \text{ preserves a Jordan Curve } \Lambda \text{ and } \mathbb{P}^1(\mathbb{C}) \setminus \Lambda \\ \text{is the union of } \mathbb{Z}\text{-invariant disks } \Delta^+ \text{ and } \Delta^-. \end{array} \right.$$

$QF$  is an open subset of  $S(\mathbb{C})$ .

$$\overline{QF} = DF := \{[\rho]: F_2 \rightarrow SL(2, \mathbb{C}) \text{ discrete faithful}\}$$

- Bers Parametrization.

$T_2'$  = the once punctured torus, with the opposite orientation.

$$\text{Teich}(T_2) \simeq \mathbb{H}^+, \quad \text{Teich}(T_2') \simeq \mathbb{H}^-.$$

$GL(2, \mathbb{Z})$  acts on  $\mathbb{H}^+$  and  $\mathbb{H}^{*-}$  simultaneously.

Thm (Bers)  $\exists \text{ Bers} : \mathbb{H}^+ \times \mathbb{H}^- \longrightarrow QF$  a holomorphic

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{diffeomorphism such that} \\ \text{Bers}(f(X), f(Y)) = f(\text{Bers}(X, Y)) \\ \forall (X, Y) \in \mathbb{H}^+ \times \mathbb{H}^- = \text{Teich}(T_1) \times \text{Teich}(T_1') \\ \forall f \in GL(2, \mathbb{Z}) = \text{MCG}(T_1) \end{array} \right.$$

This action also conjugates the action of  $\text{MCG}(T_1)$  on  $\{(z_1, z_2) \in \mathbb{H}^+ \times \mathbb{H}^- / z_1 = \bar{z}_2\}$

$$\stackrel{12}{\text{Teich}(T_1)}$$

to the action of  $PGL(2, \mathbb{Z})$  on  $S(\mathbb{R}) \cap (\mathbb{R}_*^+)^2$ .

Ⓜ

## Dynamics on $\overline{QF}$

• THM (Minsky)

The Bers map extends up to

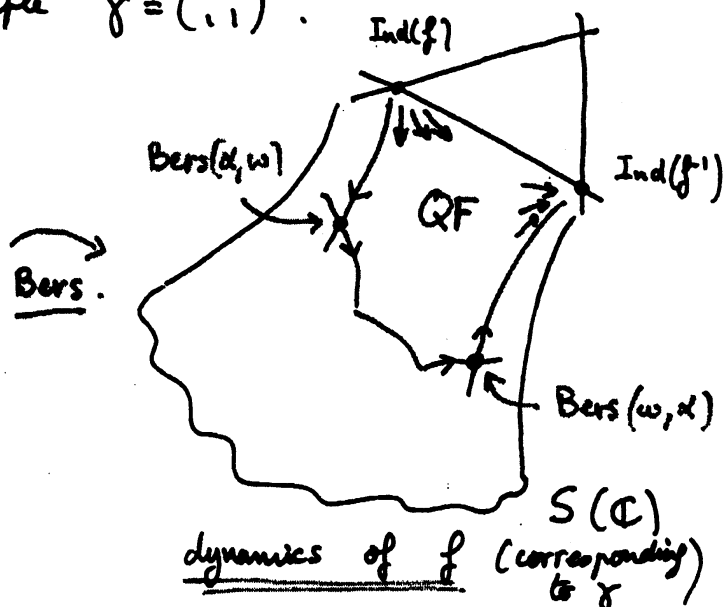
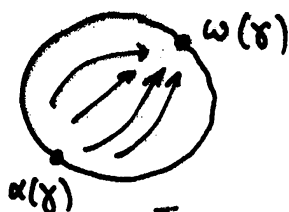
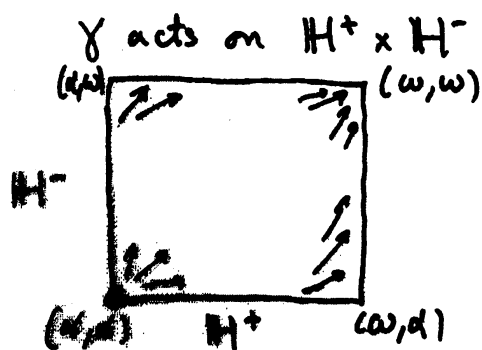
$$\partial^*(H^+ \times H^-) = \partial(\overline{H^+ \times H^-}) \setminus \{(x, x); x \in P'(\mathbb{R})\}$$

and provides a continuous bijection between

$$\overline{H^+ \times H^-} \setminus \{(x, x); x \in P'(\mathbb{R})\} \text{ and } DF \text{ .$$

• Consequence: Take  $\gamma \in PGL(2, \mathbb{Z})$ , hyperbolic.

For example  $\gamma = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ .



Fact :

$Bers(\alpha, \omega)$  and  $Bers(\omega, \alpha)$  are two hyperbolic fixed points of  $f$ .

$Bers(\alpha, H^-) \subset W^u(Bers(\alpha, \omega))$

$Bers(H^+, \omega) \subset W^s(Bers(\omega, \alpha))$

⑩

## Nice Orbits.

- The origin  $(0,0,0)$

The point  $(0,0,0) \in S$  is a singular point  
 $(S) \quad x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = xyz.$

It corresponds to the finite representation  $\rho: F_2 \rightarrow SL(2, \mathbb{C})$   
 defined by:

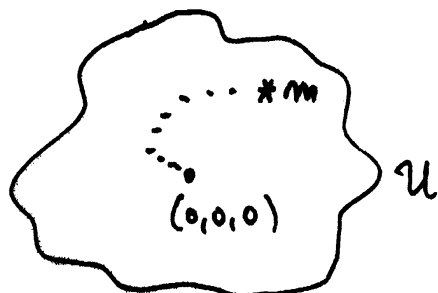
$$\rho(\alpha) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \rho(\beta) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

- THM: Let  $\gamma \in PGL(2, \mathbb{Z})$  be any hyperbolic element  
 Let  $f$  be the automorphism of  $S$  determined by  $\gamma$ .  
 Let  $q$  be one of the 2 fixed points of  $f$  on  $\partial QF$ .  
 Then exists  $[p] \in S(\mathbb{C})$  such that the closure  
 of the orbit  $MCG(T_1) \cdot [p]$  contains both  $q$   
 and the origin  $(0,0,0) = [p_0]$ .

Proof:

Step 1 (Bowditch):  $\exists$  a neighborhood  $\mathcal{U}$  of the  
 origin  $((0,0,0) \in \mathcal{U} \subset S(\mathbb{C}))$  such that

$$\forall m \in \mathbb{N} \quad \overline{MCG(T_1) \cdot m} \ni (0,0,0).$$



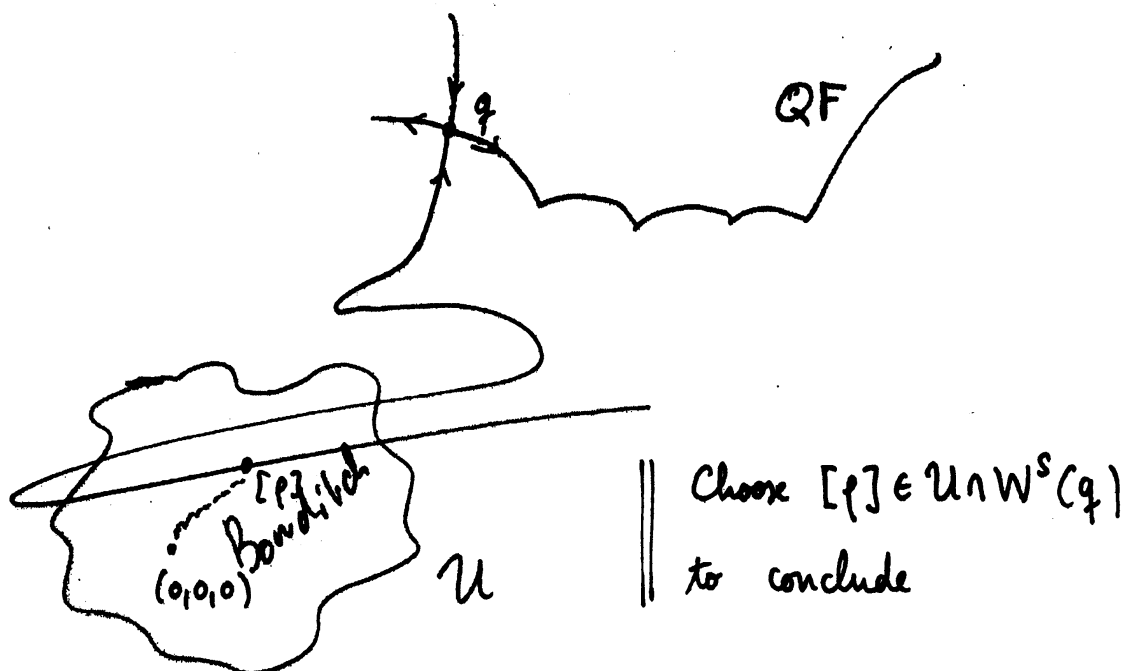
②

• Step 2:

- $(0,0,0) \in K(f)$  because this is a fixed point.
  - If  $(0,0,0) \in \text{Int}(K^-(f)) = \text{Int}(K(f))$ , then  $f$  is linearizable at the origin
  - but  $Df|_{(0,0,0)}$  has finite order and  $f$  is not periodic, so  $(0,0,0) \notin \text{Int}(K^-(f))$ .
- $\Rightarrow (0,0,0) \in \partial K^-(f)$ .

• Conclusion:

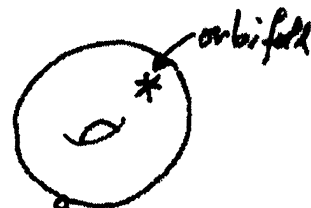
Since  $W^s(q)$  is dense in  $\partial K^-(f)$ ,  $W^s(q)$  intersects the open set  $U$ .



②

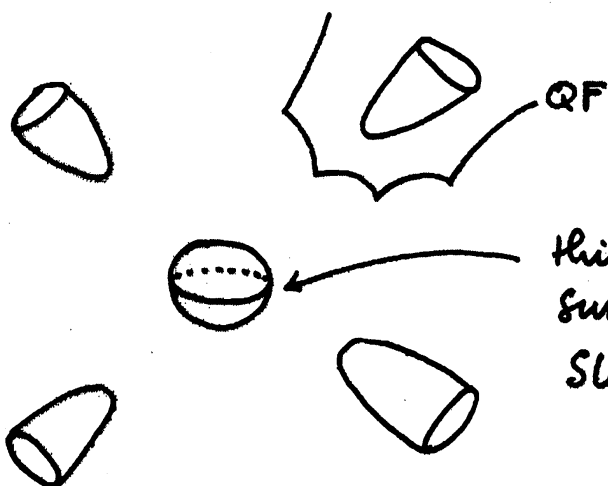
Another Example (Orbifold Structure on  $\mathbb{T}_1$ )

- Impose the condition  $\text{tr}(\rho[\alpha, \beta]) = 0$ .  
i.e.  $\rho[\alpha, \beta]^4 = \text{Id}$



The surface is now  $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - xyz = 2$ .

- We can use Teichmüller theory + quasi fuchsian deformations in the orbifold category.
- New feature: The topology of  $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - xyz = 2$ .



this component of the real surface correspond to  $SU(2)$  representations.

THM:  $\forall \gamma \in PGL(2, \mathbb{Z})$  hyperbolic

$\forall q$  one of the 2 fixed points of  $f$  on  $\partial QF$

If  $f: \ominus \rightarrow \ominus$  has a periodic saddle point then

$\exists m \in \{x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - xyz = 2\}$  such that

$$f^n(m) \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow +\infty} \ominus$$

$$f^n(m) \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow -\infty} q$$

Moreover, if  $\gamma = \begin{pmatrix} a & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ , this works and  $\overline{HCG(T_2)} \cdot m$  contains the whole bounded component  $\ominus$



①

## REAL versus COMPLEX Dynamics.

- Now we focus on the one parameter family

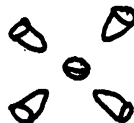
$$x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = xyz + D \quad (S_D)$$

- Topology of  $S_D(\mathbb{R})$ ,  $D \in \mathbb{R}$  (Benedetto, Goldman)

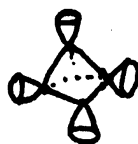
$D < 0 \quad D = 0 \quad 0 < D < 4 \quad D = 4 \quad D > 4$  →



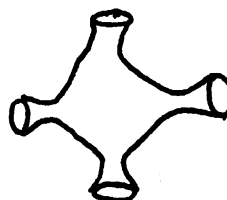
4 connected components, all unbounded



A sphere appears



Cayley



Only one connected component.

- Description of the real dynamics. (for  $f \in \text{Aut}(S_D)$ , hyper.)

T.M.H.

<u><math>D &lt; 0</math></u>	<u><math>D = 0</math></u>	<u><math>0 &lt; D &lt; 4</math></u>	<u><math>D &gt; 4</math></u>
All periodic points of $f$ are complex: $\text{Per}(f) \subset S_D(\mathbb{C}) \setminus S_D(\mathbb{R})$	The origine is the unique real periodic point	There are always complex (=non real) periodic points.	All periodic points are real.
$\text{Supp}(\mu_f) \cap S_D(\mathbb{R}) = \emptyset$		$\text{Supp}(\mu_f)$ may intersect $S_D(\mathbb{R})$ but is not contained in $S_D(\mathbb{R})$	$\text{Supp}(\mu_f)$ is contained in $S_D(\mathbb{R})$
$h_{\text{top}}(f _{\mathbb{R}}) = 0$	$h_{\text{top}}(f _{\mathbb{R}}) = 0$	$h_{\text{top}} < \frac{3}{2} \log(\lambda(f))$	$h_{\text{top}}(f _{\mathbb{R}}) = \log(\lambda(f))$
Totally disconnected	"	Totally disjoint on the 4 disks	Uniformly hyperbolic on the Julia Set

⑫

Corollary:

Assume that  $A, B, C, D$  are real parameters.

Let  $\gamma \in \Gamma_2^*$  be hyperbolic.

Let  $f$  be the automorphism of  $S_{A,B,C,D}$  induced by  $\gamma$ .

If  $S_{A,B,C,D}(\mathbb{R})$  is connected then the measure  $\mu_f$  is singular with respect to the Lebesgue measure of  $S_{A,B,C,D}(\mathbb{R})$ ;  $\text{Haus-Dim}(\text{Supp } \mu_f) < 2$ .

Sketch of the proof. (When  $A, B, C, D = 0, 0, 0, D$ )

Since the surface is connected,  $D \geq 4$  and by the previous theorem the dynamics is uniformly hyperbolic.

If the Hausdorff dimension of  $\text{Supp}(\mu_f) = 2$ , then a result of Bowen and Ruelle implies that

$K(f) \cap S_D(\mathbb{R})$  is an attractor for  $f: S_D(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow$ .

This contradicts the fact that  $K(f)$  is compact and that  $f$  is area preserving. ■

Consequence (Answer to a question by Iwasaki).

There are parameters  $\kappa_1, \kappa_2, \kappa_3, \kappa_4$  of the sixth Painlevé equation such that the monodromy along any loop with  $\lambda(\gamma) > 1$  has a singular measure of maximal entropy.

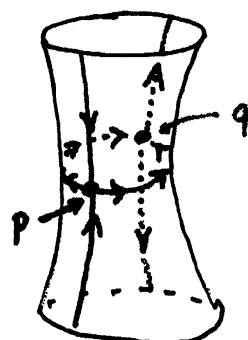
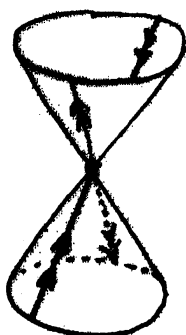
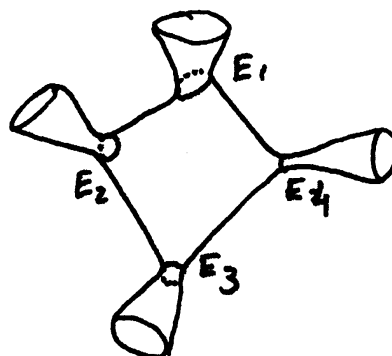
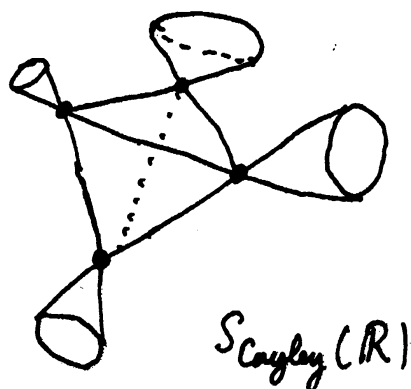
25

## Sketch of the proof of the theorem I.

- Goal : [ Prove that the dynamics is uniformly hyperbolic if  $D > 4$ , and that  $h_{\text{top}}(f|_R) = \log(\hat{\lambda}(f))$  (if  $D > 4$ ) ]

- The Cayley Cubic

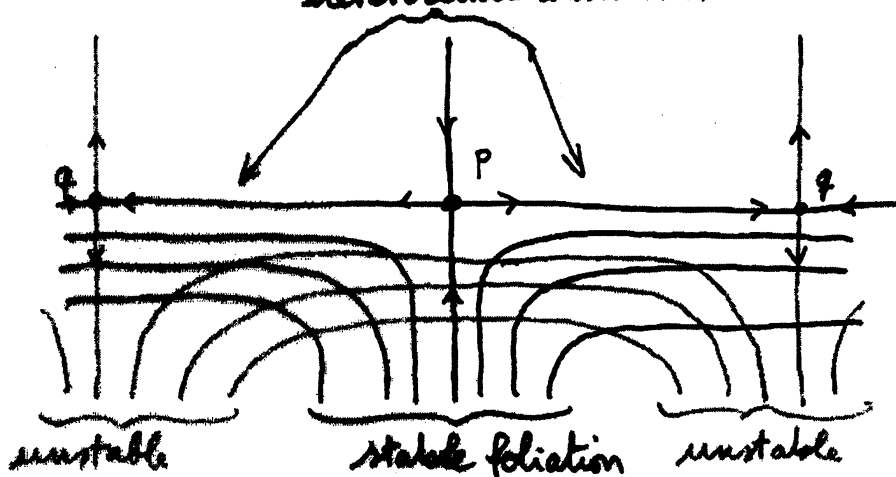
Blow Up Singularities.



Cut along the green unstable manifold:  
heteroclinic connection

Wandering dynamics

Julia set



②

# Sketch of the proof of the theorem II

## Entropy.

- To Compute the entropy we know

$$h_{\text{top}}(f_R) \leq h_{\text{top}}(f_{\mathbb{C}}) \stackrel{\uparrow}{=} \log(\lambda(f))$$

New Version  
of Iwasaki-Uehara.

- The estimate from below comes from Bowen's inequality:



$\downarrow (x, y) \sim (-x, -y)$



Sphere  $\setminus$  4 points

In the Cayley Case, we remark that if you take a generic loop  $l \in \pi_1(\text{Sphere} \setminus 4 \text{ pts})$  then

$$\text{length } f_{\#}^N[l] \sim \lambda(f)^N$$

$\uparrow$   
word metric in  $\pi_1(\mathbb{S}_4)$

Bowen's inequality says  $h_{\text{top}}(f_R) \geq \log(\lambda(f))$ .

Since the action of  $f$  on  $\pi_1(S_D(\mathbb{R}))$  does not depend on  $D > 4$  and is the same as the action of  $\pi_1(\mathbb{S}_4)$ , we get

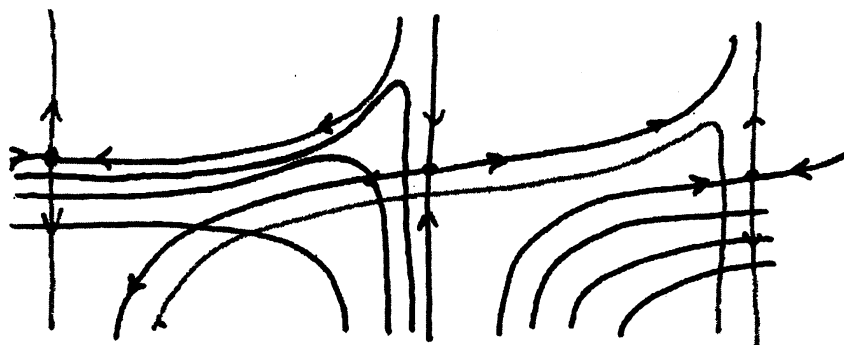
$$\forall D > 4 \quad h_{\text{top}}(f_R) \geq \log(\lambda(f)).$$

- In particular,  $\left. \begin{array}{l} K(f) \subset S_D(\mathbb{R}) \\ \text{Per}(f) \subset S_D(\mathbb{R}) \\ W^s \cap W^u \subset S_D(\mathbb{R}) \end{array} \right\} \forall D \gg 4$

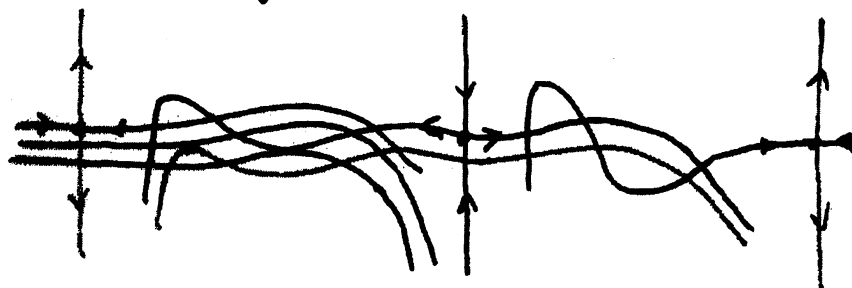


### Sketch of the proof of the theorem III.

- What we want to show is that the bifurcation after a small perturbation, or even a large perturbation, with  $D > 4$ , gives rise to the following local picture:



and not something like

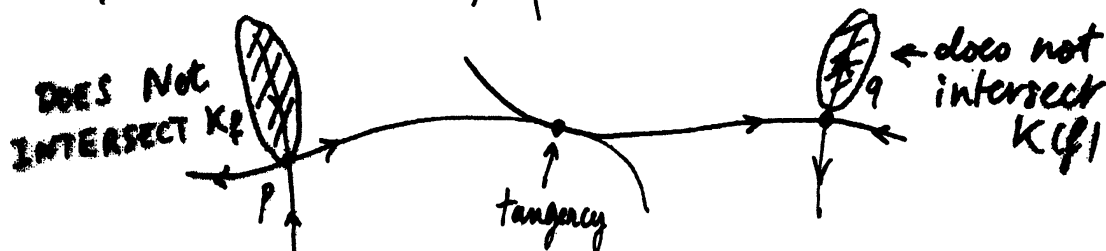


### Theorem (Bedford, Smillie)

- Assume  $D > 4$ . If the dynamics of  $f$  on  $K(f)$  is not uniformly hyperbolic then

$\exists p, q$  saddle fixed points such that

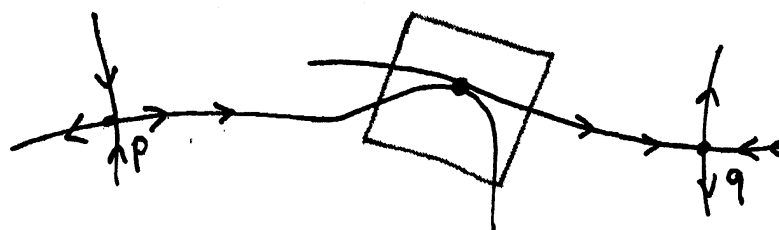
- (i)  $W^u(p)$  intersects  $W^s(q)$  tangentially (with order 2)
- (ii)  $p$  is  $s$ -one sided,  $q$  is  $u$ -one sided.



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# Sketch of the proof of the theorem IV.

- Assume  $D_0 > 4$ , not uniformly hyperbolic



- Deform  $D_0$ :



this "typical deformation" is not possible because for  $D = D_0 + \epsilon$ ,  $W^u(p) \cap W^s(q) \neq S_D(\mathbb{R})$

- Consequence:  $\left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{The tangency persists when one} \\ \text{deforms } D \text{ between } D_0 \text{ and } 4, \\ \text{up to } D=4 \end{array} \right.$

- Conclusion: Get a contradiction at  $D=4$ !

(Not so easy but it does work)

